

House Resolution 1115

By: Representatives Heckstall of the 62nd and Brooks of the 63rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the challenges facing Georgia and pledging to address key issues to improve
2 the lives of all Georgians; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the members of this body recognize that the major issues that must be addressed
4 during this legislative session are water, annexation, revenue, and transportation (WART);
5 and

6 WHEREAS, WART effects individuals, families, and businesses throughout Georgia, and
7 reaching a consensus in the legislature on these issues is vital to the future of this state; and

8 WHEREAS, similar to growths on an individual's body, if ignored and untreated, WARTs
9 can spread to other areas and infect the entire organism; and

10 WHEREAS, water is necessary to the survival of all life; the ongoing legal actions and
11 negotiations between this state, Florida, and Alabama will impact the future of this state;
12 although different geographic areas of Georgia require different amounts of water, it is
13 important to remember this entire state is connected, and adequate access to water should be
14 afforded to each city; and expansion and growth is necessary for Georgia to compete with
15 its neighboring states, and water is needed for both existing and future residents of this state;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, annexation is not the answer, and the proposed annexation of an area of Fulton
18 County to create Milton County would have a serious detrimental effect on Fulton County
19 and this state; the creation of Milton County would diminish Fulton County's revenue and
20 cripple the county's ability to provide adequate services to its businesses and residents; and
21 Fulton County is the home of this state's capitol and serves as a major hub for this state's
22 business, and an annexation of residential taxpayers in this county would negatively impact
23 the infrastructure of this important county; and

24 WHEREAS, revenue in this state has decreased due to the national economic downturn; the
25 Georgia Constitution requires a balanced state budget, and tough decisions must be made in
26 order to achieve this mandate; and legislators will need to carefully consider what services
27 are vital to this state and remain focused on crafting legislation that will help bring new
28 sources of revenue to communities; and

29 WHEREAS, transportation problems and congestion have grown exponentially over the last
30 decade, the State of Georgia needs safe roads to protect residents and visitors, and decreasing
31 commute times through the development of alternative modes of transportation and the
32 improvement of the current roadways will attract new residents to this state and improve the
33 economic health of this state; and

34 WHEREAS, members of the Senate and the House of Representatives must work together
35 to address the WART that effects the future of Georgia and her businesses and citizens; and

36 WHEREAS, party lines and politics must be left at the door this legislative session; and
37 creative solutions, studious collaboration, and serious compromise will remove the WART
38 from this state.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body recognize the key issues that must be addressed this legislative
41 session, water, annexation, revenue, and transportation (WART), and pledge their
42 commitment to improving the lives of Georgians by solving these problems.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to members of the public and
45 the press.